

Captiva Community Panel to meet Oct. 11

The Captiva Community will hold its next monthly meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 11, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Wakefield Room at Tween Waters Inn, 15851 Captiva Drive. Among the items to be discussed:

- Update on the Lee Plan amendment on Captiva building heights (see below)
- Captiva Land Development Code update
- Lee Plan update review (from county staff)
- Lee County's Captiva-specific taxes
- A CEPD update
- A Hurricane Preparedness update
- Other business as necessary

The public is invited and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, contact panel administrator Ken Gooderham at kengooderham@gmail.com.

New Captiva building height regs approved

At a Sept. 28 public hearing on the current Lee Plan amendments, the Lee County Board of County Commissioners voted 4-1 (Bigelow dissenting) to adopt the proposed building height amendment to the Captiva portion of the Lee Plan. There were numerous speakers in favor of the amendment, including panel members Sandy Stilwell, Rick Hayduk and Rene Miville and panel planner Max Forgey -- all of whom should be commended for a very professional presentation.

The new height language will take effect shortly -- probably by early November, once it has been approved in an ordinance form by the commissioners. More details will be discussed at the next panel meeting on Oct. 11, but Captivans should be pleased to have this major milestone finally complete.

The new language is:

POLICY 13.1.2: Due to the nature of a barrier island, the height of buildings and structures is dependent on conditions such as elevation of the site above sea level and mandatory flood elevation requirements. In response to these conditions, the height of buildings and structures may not exceed the least restrictive of the two following options:

a. 35 feet above the average grade of the lot in question or 42 feet above mean sea level measured to the peak of the roof, whichever is lower; or

b. 28 feet above the lowest horizontal member at or below the lawful base flood elevation measured to the mean level between eaves and ridge in the case of gable, hip, and gambrel roofs. If lowest horizontal member is set above the base flood elevation the 28 foot measurement will be measured starting from the base flood elevation.

Notwithstanding the above height limitations, purely ornamental structural appurtenances and appurtenances necessary for mechanical or structural functions may extend an additional four (4) feet

above the roof peak or eight (8) feet above the mean height level in the case of gable, hip, and gambrel roofs, whichever is lower, so long as these elements equal 20% or less of the total roof area.

CEPD to meet Aug. 10

The next meeting of the Captiva Erosion Prevention District will be Wednesday, Oct. 12, beginning at noon in the Wakefield Room at Tween Waters Inn.

Hurricane Committee launches Facebook page

The Hurricane Preparedness Committee has expanded its communications options with the launch of a Captiva Hurricane Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/Captiva.Hurricane.Preparation.Response.Committee>. All information posted on the Facebook page is also streamed on the website -- www.mycaptiva.info -- but the committee is trying to get as many people to also sign up on Facebook as possible. (It's also a good way to spread the word about the committee to other Facebook friends.)